

Historic, Archive Document

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742 P
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS
ROOM 301, 999 EXCHANGE AVENUE
FOOD DISTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO

U.S. WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
FOOD DISTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 301, 999 EXCHANGE AVENUE
CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

TELEPHONE: YARDS 6520

PIG CROP REPORT - DECEMBER, 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C., DECEMBER 23, 1943. (W.F.A.) - - AFTER HAVING REACHED AN ALL-TIME PEAK IN 1943, HOG PRODUCTION WILL DECLINE IN 1944, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE STATES IN ITS DECEMBER PIG CROP REPORT. THE INDICATED NUMBER OF SOWS TO FARROW IN THE SPRING SEASON OF 1944 IS 16 PER CENT BELOW THE RECORD NUMBER FARROWED IN 1943. THE TENDENCY TO DECLINE BEGAN IN THE LAST HALF OF THIS YEAR WHEN FALL FARROWINGS WERE SUBSTANTIALLY BELOW THE NUMBER INDICATED IN THE JUNE PIG REPORT. COMPARED WITH THE INDICATED INCREASE OF 25 PER CENT IN JUNE, THE ACTUAL INCREASE IN FALL FARROWINGS WAS ONLY 12 PER CENT. THE 1943 FALL CROP WAS STILL THE LARGEST EVER PRODUCED. THE NUMBER OF HOGS OVER 6 MONTHS OLD ON DECEMBER 1 GREATLY EXCEEDED THE NUMBER AS OF THAT DATE IN ANY OTHER YEAR.

THIS INFORMATION IS BASED UPON RETURNS FROM 154,000 FARMERS OBTAINED IN COOPERATION WITH THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE RURAL MAIL CARRIERS.

FALL PIG CROP: THE NUMBER OF PIGS SAVED IN THE FALL SEASON OF 1943 (JUNE 1 TO DECEMBER 1) IS ESTIMATED AT 47,831,000 HEAD. THIS NUMBER IS 10 PER CENT LARGER THAN THE FORMER RECORD FALL PIG CROP OF 1942 AND IS 72 PER CENT LARGER THAN THE 10-YEAR (1932-41) AVERAGE. THE NUMBER WAS LARGER THAN LAST YEAR IN MOST STATES AND IN ALL REGIONS. BY REGIONS THE PERCENTAGE INCREASES WERE AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| EAST NORTH CENTRAL | 11 PER CENT |
| WEST NORTH CENTRAL | 3 PER CENT |
| NORTH ATLANTIC | 38 PER CENT |
| SOUTH ATLANTIC | 22 PER CENT |
| SOUTH CENTRAL | 11 PER CENT |
| WESTERN | 11 PER CENT |

THE NUMBER OF SOWS FARROWING IN THE FALL SEASON OF 1943 WAS 12 PER CENT LARGER THAN THE NUMBER FARROWING IN 1942. THIS INCREASE IS SUBSTANTIALLY BELOW THE INCREASE OF 25 PER CENT INDICATED BY BREEDING INTENTIONS REPORTS MADE IN JUNE OF THIS YEAR. EXCEPT FOR THE DROUGHT YEAR OF 1934 THIS IS THE LARGEST DROP BETWEEN JUNE INTENTIONS AND DECEMBER FARROWINGS EVER SHOWN BY THESE PIG REPORTS. THE LARGEST DEVIATIONS WERE IN THE NORTH CENTRAL (CORN BELT) STATES, WHERE THE ACTUAL INCREASE WAS ONLY 7 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH THE JUNE INDICATIONS OF A 23 PER CENT INCREASE. IN THE EAST NORTH CENTRAL GROUP THE DROP WAS FROM 24 PER CENT TO 13 PER CENT, WHILE IN THE WEST NORTH CENTRAL IT WAS FROM 21 PER CENT TO 5 PER CENT. IN OTHER REGIONS THE DECEMBER INCREASES ARE MUCH NEARER THOSE INDICATED IN JUNE.

THE SURVEY RETURNS SHOW THAT THE LARGE DECLINES FROM INTENTIONS CAME AS A RESULT OF GREATLY DECREASED FARROWINGS IN THE SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER PERIOD. THE DISTRIBUTION OF FARROWINGS BY MONTHS INDICATES LARGE INCREASES OVER 1942 IN JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST, A SMALL INCREASE IN SEPTEMBER AND SHARP DECLINES IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER. THESE INDICATIONS ARE SUPPORTED BY RECORDS OF MARKETINGS OF SOWS AT LEADING MIDDLE WESTERN MARKETS.

THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF PIGS SAVED PER LITTER IN THE FALL OF 1943 WAS 6.29 FOR THE UNITED STATES AND 6.36 FOR THE CORN BELT. THESE COMPARE RESPECTIVELY WITH 6.41 AND 6.48 IN 1942 AND 10-YEAR AVERAGES OF 6.19 AND 6.31.

THE YEARLY PIG CROP: THE COMBINED SPRING AND FALL PIG CROP OF 1943 IS ESTIMATED AT 121,847,000 HEAD. THIS NUMBER EXCEEDS THE COMBINED CROP OF 1942 BY ABOUT 17,288,000 HEAD, OR 17 PER CENT, AND IS ABOUT 67 PER CENT ABOVE THE 10-YEAR AVERAGE. FOR THE NORTH CENTRAL STATES THE COMBINED CROP THIS YEAR IS ESTIMATED AT 84,400,000 HEAD, AN INCREASE OF 10,973,000 HEAD OR 15 PER CENT OVER 1942.

SPRING INTENTIONS: THE NUMBER OF SOWS TO FARROW IN THE SPRING SEASON OF 1944 (DECEMBER 1, 1943 TO JUNE 1, 1944) IS INDICATED AT 10,155,000, A DECREASE OF 1,979,000 OR 16 PER CENT FROM THE NUMBER FARROWING IN THE 1943 SPRING SEASON. THE INDICATED NUMBER, HOWEVER, IS LARGER THAN THE NUMBER FARROWING IN ANY OTHER SPRING SEASON ON RECORD EXCEPT 1943. DECREASES ARE INDICATED FOR NEARLY ALL STATES, WITH THE LARGEST IN THE STATES FROM ARKANSAS AND KANSAS TO NEW MEXICO AND IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN STATES. BY REGIONS THE DECREASES ARE EAST NORTH CENTRAL 13 PER CENT; WEST NORTH CENTRAL 17 PER CENT; NORTH ATLANTIC 8 PER CENT; SOUTH ATLANTIC 4 PER CENT; SOUTH CENTRAL 23 PER CENT; WESTERN 28 PER CENT.

THESE INDICATED DECREASES ARE BASED UPON BREEDING INTENTIONS, AS REPORTED BY FARMERS ABOUT DECEMBER 1, AND UPON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BREEDING INTENTIONS AND SUBSEQUENT FARROWINGS IN OTHER YEARS. SUCH DECREASES, OR EVEN ANY DECREASES, IN THE CORN BELT STATES IN A PERIOD OF HIGH HOG PRICES AND A FAIRLY FAVORABLE HOG-CORN RATIO WOULD NOT BE EXPECTED UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS, ESPECIALLY IN STATES WITH RECORD OR NEAR-RECORD CORN CROPS. APPARENTLY THE DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN GETTING THE RECORD 1943 SPRING PIG CROP MARKETED, THE REDUCED SUPPORT PRICES ANNOUNCED FOR HOGS FROM THE 1944 SPRING CROP, THE EXPECTATION OF HIGHER CORN PRICES, THE SHORTAGE OF HIGH PROTEIN IN FEEDS AND OTHER CONDITIONS CONSIDERED UNSATISFACTORY BY HOG PRODUCERS, ALL TENDED TO CHANGE THEIR REACTIONS TO THE FACTORS THAT USUALLY DETERMINE HOG PRODUCTION PLANS.

HOGS ON FARMS: THE DECEMBER 1 REPORTS FROM FARMERS SHOW A MUCH LARGER NUMBER OF HOGS OVER 6 MONTHS OLD (INCLUDING BROOD SOWS) ON HAND AT THAT DATE THAN THE RECORD NUMBER OF A YEAR EARLIER. ALTHOUGH MARKETINGS OF 1943 SPRING PIGS HAVE BEEN OF RECORD SIZE FOR SOME WEEKS, A LARGE PART OF THE INCREASE IN THE 1943 SPRING PIG CROP WAS STILL ON FARMS ON DECEMBER 1.

RELEASED BY
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
FOOD DISTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

L. M. WYATT,

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE.

S - 12/23/43. 12:45 P.M.

~~SEE OTHER SIDE~~

233 LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

TELEPHONE: 6-2209

CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

JUL 27 1944

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RELEASED BY WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION.
FOOD DISTRIBUTION ADMIN.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

12/23/43 RP
1:45 P.M.

WARREN SMEBY, LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE.

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
FOOD DISTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION
233 LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING
FORT WORTH 6, TEXAS
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300

